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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

Australia and Japan: draft resolution

Improving international collaboration in response to tackling new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recognizing that new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants continue to pose risks to public health and safety, and that an effective response requires balanced and integrated action to reduce their harm, restrict their supply and fill knowledge gaps,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/39 of 22 July 2003 on strengthening systems of control over chemical precursors and preventing their diversion and trafficking,

Also recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/14 of 24 July 2001 on prevention of diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of synthetic drugs,

Noting the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to hold a special session on the world drug problem in 2016 to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International

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Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,

Noting with concern the rapid global emergence of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants and the trafficking of their precursors, which poses significant law enforcement and public health challenges to Member States and requires enhanced levels of cooperation, coordination and data collection between Member States to effectively address their proliferation,

Acknowledging the emphasis placed by the International Narcotics Control Board on the need for effective administrative, legislative and regulatory controls and structures around the legitimate trade in precursor chemicals within national borders as a means of implementing article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[1]

Recalling the recommendation of the International Narcotics Control Board that all parties to the 1988 Convention adopt and implement national control measures to effectively monitor movement of precursor chemicals,

Recalling also the request of the International Narcotics Control Board to further strengthen existing precursor control measures, should any weaknesses be identified,

Recognizing the importance of applying national precursor controls with uniform effectiveness globally as a means of avoiding the displacement of diversion points across national borders,

Recalling its resolutions 48/1 of 11 March 2005, 55/1 of 16 March 2012, 56/4 of 15 March 2013 and 57/9 of 21 March 2014 on enhancing international cooperation on new psychoactive substances, in particular relating to exchanging information, sharing best practice in demand and supply reduction, and supporting the international scheduling system to meet the challenges posed by these substances,

Recalling also its resolution 58/11 of 17 March 2015 on promoting international cooperation in responding to new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, in which Member States agreed to share information on novel treatment models,

Recalling further the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled *The Challenge of New Psychoactive Substances*, in which it was noted that new psychoactive substances had become a global phenomenon, and all regions of the world had been affected by their proliferation, with the vast majority of countries and territories surveyed reporting the emergence of new psychoactive substances,

Recognizing the crucial role of international cooperation, and recalling its resolution 58/8 of 17 March 2015 on the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016,

Recalling the decisions taken at its fifty-eighth session to place nine harmful new psychoactive substances under international control for the first time,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Recognizing that a comprehensive global response to new psychoactive substances requires distinct but complementary approaches at the national, regional and international levels, including international scheduling of the most persistent, prevalent and harmful substances, and enhanced national action guided by local circumstances,

Recognizing also that Member States face different challenges in reducing the supply and demand of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, but that there are some common characteristics of manufacture and mutual licit precursor chemicals,

Recognizing further the common challenges in reducing the diversion of precursors for new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants,

1. *Urges* Member States, regional organizations, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant organizations to continue to collect data and share information to build a collective global understanding of amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances;

2. *Urges* Member States and regional organizations to support the domestic and international collection of data on new psychoactive substances, including patterns of use, harm, and similarities in effects and composition to existing drugs, so that the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence of the World Health Organization, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, can provide timely evidence-based scheduling recommendations on the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances, taking public health harm as the primary factor in prioritizing substances;

3. *Invites* the World Health Organization, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, regional organizations and Member States, to disseminate its surveillance list of substances of concern, to proactively collect evidence on these substances in order to support future evidence-based reviews, and to issue voluntary public health alerts where there is sufficient evidence that a new psychoactive substance poses a risk to public health;

4. *Urges* Member States to support the collection of law enforcement data on organized criminal activities such as trafficking in precursors and the manufacture and distribution of illicit drugs, in order to support evidence-based recommendations from the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence to the most prevalent, persistent and harmful emerging substances;

5. *Encourages* Member States to share domestic and regional data through established international mechanisms, as well as intelligence and expertise, particularly on movement and control of precursor chemicals and new psychoactive substances, in order to better inform evidence-based policymaking and cooperate in effectively countering new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants;

6. *Urges* Member States to support research and analysis on patterns of use, public health harms including evidence of acute toxicity and dependence resulting from use of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, forensic data, and regulatory responses, and to share findings via bilateral, regional and multilateral channels;

7. *Also urges* Member States to support and make full use of the existing international cooperation tools, including established global communication channels of the International Narcotics Control Board, the early warning advisory mechanism and the Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme, for the exchange of information on the sourcing and distribution of, and trafficking in, non-scheduled substances, precursors and new psychoactive substances;

8. *Encourages* Member States to coordinate the public health and law enforcement responses to the dynamic new psychoactive substance and amphetamine-type stimulant markets in the various countries and regions in order to share information about the most effective strategies, innovative legislative models and novel approaches to domestic scheduling for controlling precursor chemicals, new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants;

9. *Also encourages* Member States to complement international efforts to restrict the supply of new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants and precursors through strengthened border and domestic controls and monitoring, such as through national legislative, regulatory and administrative measures, to prevent production, importation and distribution, including promotion, distribution and sales through the Internet;

10. *Further encourages* Member States, in the context of a comprehensive and balanced approach to addressing the world drug problem, to continue to consider a wide variety of legislative, regulatory and administrative measures to tackle the emergence of new psychoactive substances, such as temporary control measures, laws on controlled substance analogues and actions in the area of public health, including actions relating to pharmaceutical products, consumer protection and hazardous substances;

11. *Encourages* Member States to consider strengthening, in accordance with their national legislation, control over and monitoring of, the domestic and international trade in precursor chemicals that can be used in the illicit manufacture of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, and to monitor the legitimate trade in such chemicals through enhanced cooperation between competent authorities and concerned industrial sectors;

12. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.